

CLUB CORNER

GEORGE CROSS

The committee are upset at the recent statement by Mr. Weinberg which inferred that the club was in financial straits. The invitation to Mr. Weinberg to inspect the books on the basis that, if he were proved wrong, he would wine and dine the committee has not been answered. The club is in a very sound position, due to the efforts of a hard-working committee and a band of strong supporters.

The 15-cent "Ping Pong Paper" again this week has published a story which casts doubts again on all the clubs in the League. The article is full of innuendoes and is a slur on every team. The four Olympic Park clubs are certainly not involved, and I suggest that the writer of this article should have the guts to name the club concerned or keep quiet.

Of the 22 under-14 players selected to travel to Tasmania, five are from George Cross — a great effort. They are Danny de Bruckere, Peter Ferrenti, Carlos Sabadussi, Philip Cutejar and Bruno Kastner. The club congratulates the boys on their fine achievement.

There are still a few tickets available for the Malta National Day Ball at the Royale Ballroom on September 6. However, they are going quickly. Those interested should contact any club official immediately and make their reservation.

**ALL PLAYERS AT OLYMPIC PARK ARE PROVIDED WITH RIVERLAND ORANGES.
RICH IN VITAMIN C. FOR GOOD HEALTH.**

STATE LEAGUE LADDER

	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Av.	Pts.
CROATIA	11	2	4	30	13	2.31	24
HAKOAH	9	4	4	28	17	1.65	22
POLONIA	8	6	3	23	16	1.44	22
S.M.-HELLAS	8	6	3	30	21	1.43	22
George Cross	6	5	6	29	23	1.26	17
Ringwood City	6	5	6	22	20	1.10	17
Lions	5	6	6	15	20	0.75	16
P.M.-Slavia	5	5	7	24	22	1.09	15
Alexander	5	4	8	24	38	0.68	14
Juventus	4	6	7	20	33	0.60	14
Melbourne	3	5	9	17	29	0.59	11
Footscray	4	2	11	21	33	0.64	10

Progress Press Pty. Ltd., 66 High St., Glen Iris

CROATIA

The Croatia club extends a hearty welcome to Brian Williams and his wife, Dawn, and their two lovely children. Brian is a centre-half, 24 years old and solidly built.

Despite their high position on the ladder, the club committee is not standing still, but constantly seeking improvement. Brian looks certain to find a place in the side, although it is hard to see anyone replacing Bot, who is a great team man and a fine defender.

An opportunity for club supporters to meet the newcomer and all the other players and officials will be August 17, at St. Augustine's Hall, Somerville Rd., Footscray. Make it a date right now and book with any club official to be certain of a good table, or just arrive and take pot luck.

SLAVIA

The club quite rightly is disturbed at the vendetta being waged in Soccer News against team manager Ray Barotas. If any of the statements were accurate there would be no objection, but, as usual, the facts are garbled and the result is sheer tripe.

Ray Barotas is a fine sportsman who has put more into the game than anyone in the "Fifteen Center" and certainly does not deserve to be given the treatment. Lay off or the "Record" might take up the cudgels, and although we are only small we are not afraid to speak our piece.

COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE

Olympic Park Record

Vol. 20

SATURDAY, 10th - SUNDAY, 11th AUGUST, 1968

5c

Alex Barr says—

F.I.F.A. REFEREE — WASTED CHANCE

Internationally famous F.I.F.A. referee Mr. Ken Aston, currently in Melbourne as part of his itinerary on a lecture tour to the Oceanic Football Confederation, was guest of honor at a reception given by Qantas on Friday evening. Federation officials were in attendance at the hootenany, but I wonder how many will be present at the lectures.

Mr. Aston, who is headmaster of a school in Ilford, Essex, is 50 years young and a brilliant lecturer, as one would expect. He has the distinction of being added to the F.I.F.A. international list only one year after attaining F.A. recognition, a truly remarkable achievement.

If the recent visit of top coach Mr. Kramer can be used as a yardstick my forecast is "damn few", and more's the pity, as I feel that in general club and federation officials are in the main abysmally ignorant of the laws governing the game.

These remarks do not include our referees, as, despite the abuse directed at them (often by club officials who don't know what they are talking about), they are a pretty competent bunch of people whose dedication and honesty is beyond doubt.

It is not only from a referee's viewpoint that Mr. Aston's visit is important. Soccer throughout the world is changing rapidly — and who better to pass on information on current trends than a man who has been in the thick of it, in F.A. Cup finals and World Cup matches?

I would also say that it is a great pity that the general soccer public have not been invited to take part. I am quite certain that many would be interested, especially as most have never seen a rule book in their lives.

Admittedly Mr. Aston's talks on the highly technical level will greatly assist our referees, who freely admit

that there is always room for improvement, but for goodness' sake, unless the public and the club officials know what is going on, surely we are heading for arguments galore.

Players should be not only invited to attend a lecture but every club should enforce their participation, as every dispute on the field can be attributed to lack of knowledge of the laws.

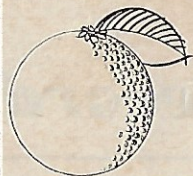
I'll never forget the apathy of coaches and officials when a soccer genius in Mr. Kramer was at their disposal, and I am troubled that a similar lack of interest will be shown in Mr. Aston.

Someone once said: "To fully appreciate and enjoy soccer an understanding of the laws is essential." Maybe there are some ratbags who derive their pleasure from hurling abuse at the man in the middle, but I am certain that, given the chance to gain further knowledge, there are hundreds of fans, possibly thousands, who would welcome the opportunity to hear such a distinguished speaker as Mr. Aston.

It may be too late now to organise something along those lines, but I strongly recommend the matter be given some consideration by the powers that be. It would be a forward move which could only advance the code.

"The Record" would like to thank Qantas for their hospitality: Sales manager Mr. Des Leggett, Mr. Colin Tuffield, Qantas soccer liaison officer, and Messrs. Jim Flocas and Les Cassar, from the sales department.

One thing is certain — flying with Qantas, Mr. Aston enjoys all the comfort, care and consideration from Australia's own international airline. Going overseas? Fly Qantas.



In Football **RIVERLAND** Time is $\frac{3}{4}$ Time

In Soccer **RIVERLAND** Time is $\frac{1}{2}$ Time

For Children, Mothers and Fathers
RIVERLAND Time is any Time



SATURDAY

ALEXANDER

POLONIA

1. AZZOPARDI
2. XANTHOPOLOUS
3. GLENNIE
4. KRIARIS
5. BOUSOULAS
6. FOKIANOS
7. MANGOPOLOUS
8. MARGARITES
9. MINTZIAS
10. PAPACONSTANTINOU
11. MILHILIDAS
12. BROWN
13. ANDRICOULAS

Reserve Goal-keeper, ECONOMEDES

1. BLANK
2. CZERNIECKI
3. SOWULA
4. JANCZYK
5. ZUAWSKI
6. GAJDA
7. GADECKI
8. MARMUR
9. SWOBODA
10. WROBEL
11. ADAMCZYK
12. ORLINSKI

OFFICIALS

Referee, Mr. RADULOVIC. Linesmen, Messrs. ARMSTRONG and WARD.

DESPERATE DUEL — DRAW?

By Alex Barr

Both teams smarting after last week's losses indicates a tough, tight tussle, as both strive to regain the winning list. However, I feel the defences will dominate and that the points will be shared after a gruelling battle.

Discount the scoreboard of last week, which read Slavia 6, Alexander 2. The scoreboard would have read something similar no matter who Slavia were against, on their form that day. They would have thrashed any side in the League.

I admired the way Alexander stuck to the task after the early setback, and it is this fighting spirit which I feel will bring them into calculations against the talented Polonia squad,

which was below full strength when going down by three goals to Croatia.

Both sides play fast, attacking soccer backed by stubborn defence, and this will certainly provide a feast of entertainment for the fans. I have long been an admirer of Vic Janczyk and his merry men, whilst I naturally stick with Alexander. All I hope is that the best team wins.

THIS WEEKEND AT OTHER GROUNDS

Saturday

Hakoah v. Ringwood City.
Footscray v. Port Melbourne-Slavia.

Sunday

Melbourne v. Juventus.
Lions v. S.M.-Hellas.

NEXT WEEKEND'S DRAW

Saturday

P.M.-Slavia v. Lions, Olympic Park.
Juventus v. Hakoah.
S.M.-Hellas v. Melbourne.

Sunday

Alexander v. Footscray,
Olympic Park.
Ringwood City v. Croatia.
Polonia v. George Cross.



HELP FOR NEW SETTLERS IN AUSTRALIA

You'll be welcome at —

Bank of New South Wales — Wales Corner Branch
Cnr. Collins & Swanston Sts., Melbourne

Bring this programme with you

SUNDAY

CROATIA

1. KOVACEK
2. McKAY, D.
3. GUNN
4. McARTHUR
5. BOT
6. RAU
7. McMEECHAN
8. McINTYRE
9. VOTJEK
10. McKAY, J.
11. GLASER
12. DAVIS
13. WIXEY
14. ADLAM

Reserve Goalkeeper, BALIC

GEORGE CROSS

1. KASTNER
2. TRUSKOWSKI
3. MORSON
4. IRELAND
5. CAIRNS
6. SCHOFIELD
7. CAMPBELL
8. FERGUSON
9. McCALLUM
10. ROBERTSON
11. KEENAN
12. ARMOUR
13. SANCHEZ

Reserve Goalkeeper, SNOBKOWSKI

OFFICIALS

Referee, Mr. LAMB. Linesmen, Messrs. YELLAND and HUDDLE.

CAN CROATIA CRUSH CROSS?

By Alex Barr

Croatia look likely to be the victors on this occasion, but let's not forget George Cross' early form, when the side looked like taking a firm grip on the League leadership. Now the position is reversed and Croatia occupy the top rung, and George Cross is in one of its worst slumps ever.

George Cross has the same talent as before at their disposal, and it is quite on the cards that out-of-touch players can find form as quickly as they lost it. Bearing this in mind, I select Croatia to win, but don't discount what some people refer to as "an upset".

With respect I submit that Cross selectors may have been a bit hasty with some of the team changes. However, I know they were made with good intent. Players make mistakes and so do selectors. I feel that the

slump could be over and George Cross fans will see their team in winning vein soon, although I doubt if this will be the match which provides the springboard for the breakthrough.

Croatia is a talented side in every department. There is a stability present lacking in so many other teams. The desire to win is obvious, and the determination to retain the top rung is evident in the side's approach.

I feel George Cross will keep the margin narrow. The club is still well in the running for Australia Cup qualification, and this, I feel, should be the club's target from now on.

For up-to-the-minute comment on weekend soccer tune in to 3KZ every Friday night at 9.30.

Sports Cavalcade, presented by Rod McLeod, will, from now on, include a soccer segment presented by Alex Barr.

SELECTIONS

Saturday

Hakoah to lose to Ringwood City.
Footscray to go down to
Port Melbourne-Slavia.

Sunday

Juventus a narrow victory over
Melbourne.
Lions down to South Melbourne
in the big upset of the round.